

Freeport Towne Square (FTS)

Freeport, Maine



Number of people with mental retardation served annually by Freeport Towne Square

2002	Group homes	12
	Workshop	22
2001	Group homes	12
	Workshop	25
2000	Group Homes	12
	Workshop	38
1999	Group Homes	11
	Workshop	43
1998	Group Homes	11
	Workshop	46

Freeport Towne Square Core Values

- Consumer-driven
- Community-based
- Consumer choice
- Coordination, continuity, and access

Planning, Collaboration Spark Increased Inclusion

We know for sure that the number of people with disabilities who are in the workforce is increasing. The numbers have been increasing steadily over the past several years. We expect that the new Social Security changes, Welfare to Work Programs and the Maine Medicaid Buy-In Program to continue to support more people entering the workforce than ever before.

The goal of Freeport Towne Square's (FTS) Group Homes and Sheltered Workshop is to support and assist consumers with mental retardation to live and work in their communities.

Twelve adults with mental retardation live and receive active treatment in the two group homes that make up FTS, a state facility operated by the Department of Behavioral and Developmental Services (BDS). Eleven house par-

ents provide 24-hour supervision and a Program Coordinator develops and monitors active treatment plans and community inclusion activities in compliance with Intensive Care Facility (ICF-MR) regulations.

A total of 17 full and part-time state employees work at FTS. Staff work collaboratively with community resources to develop options for community-based inclusion activities.

The residents at FTS are involved in a variety of church, civic, social and recreational opportunities. Last year, two consumers attended the Speaking Up for Us conference and this year four consumers will attend this annual event.

Presently, 6 consumers are involved in full or part time work in the sheltered workshop program. Over the past year, nineteen consumers have moved to

community worksites. A Work Placement Specialist develops and implements plans with consumers, staff and community agencies to facilitate placements in less restrictive community work or day programs. Some of the local agencies participating at this time include Diversified Employment, Inc.; Creative Work Systems, Inc.; Goodwill Industries and Independence Association.

Collaboration with other state agencies such as the Department of Labor (DOL) is also key to more opportunities for inclusion. Regular meetings occur with the DOL Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to address policy and practice and to provide a seamless system of support for mutual clients.

For more information about BDS visit: www.state.me.us/bds/



State of Maine
Department of Behavioral
and Developmental Services

Lynn F. Duby, Commissioner

July 2002